

Tips for Safe Computing—essential for protecting your data, devices, and privacy:

1. Keep Your Software Up to Date

- Regularly update your OS, apps, antivirus, and browser.
- Enable automatic updates when possible.

2. Use Strong, Unique Passwords

- Use different passwords for each account.
- Combine upper/lowercase letters, numbers, and symbols.
- Use a password manager.

3. Enable Two-Factor Authentication (2FA)

- Adds an extra layer of security.
- Use an authenticator app instead of SMS when available.

4. Avoid Suspicious Links and Attachments

- Don't open email attachments or links from unknown sources.
- Be cautious of urgent messages asking for personal info.

5. Use Secure Wi-Fi Connections

- Avoid public Wi-Fi for sensitive tasks.
- Use a VPN when necessary for extra security.

6. Clean Up Your Devices

- Uninstall unused apps and extensions.
- Clear your browser cache and cookies regularly.

7. Back Up Your Data

- Regularly back up files to an external drive or cloud storage.
- Use automated backup tools for convenience.

8. Be Privacy-Conscious

- Limit the amount of personal information you share online.
- Review privacy settings on social media and apps.

9. Protect All Devices

- Install antivirus/malware protection on phones, tablets, and PCs.
- Set up device encryption and screen locks.

10. Stay Informed

- Follow cybersecurity news.
- Be aware of new scams, threats, and digital hygiene tips.